ISSN 1809-127X (online edition)
© 2010 Check List and Authors
Open Access | Freely available at *www.checklist.org.br*

Check List
Journal of species lists and distribution

NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Aves Linnaeus, 1758: New records for the Jaú National Park, Amazonas, Brazil

Ricardo Afonso M. de Almeida

Fundação Vitória Amazônica - Programa de Pesquisa Científica. Rua Estrela D'Alva, casa 146, Loteamento Parque Morada do Sol. Bairro Aleixo. CEP 69060-093. Manaus, AM, Brazil.
E-mail: *almeida@fva.org.br*

ABSTRACT: As the result of some eight years of fieldwork, 469 bird species have been recorded at the Jaú National Park by the year 2002. Fieldwork conducted between 2000 and 2008 added 12 species to the list, including *Myrmotherula klagesi*, *Cephalopterus ornatus*, *Campylorhamphus procurvoides*, *Venilinornis cassini*, *Pteroglossus aracari*, *Todirostrum pictum*, *Monasa atra*, *Porphyrio martinica*, and *Percnostola rufifrons* which were restricted to fluvial islands of Rio Negro. All new records belong to species which are either little known, have very low natural densities, are patchily distributed or are vagrants.

Jaú National Park (JNP) covers an area of 2,272,000 ha, some 200 km north-west of Manaus (Borges *et al*. 2004), on the lower Rio Negro, Amazonas state, Brazil. The avifauna of JNP has been studied since 1994 and birds are considered to be one of the park's best known groups (Borges *et al*. 2001). The species recorded constitute some 50 % of the known central Amazonian avifauna. The first bird list for the park, the result of seven years of fieldwork, contained 445 species (Borges *et al*. 2001). Following an additional three years of work devoted to the "Windows of Biodiversity Project", an additional 24 species were recorded, bringing the list to 469 species (Borges 2004).

Between January 2003 and December 2005 I made monthly visits to JNP, resulting in the sampling of some months of the year that had not been well-covered in previous studies. During those surveys, I recorded 12 species of birds new to JNP, which are discussed in detail below (see Figure 1).

Species Accounts

Tinamus guttatus Pelzeln, 1863 - White-throated Tinamou. This species was recorded by voice only on 11 and 13 January 2005 in *terra firme* forest on the Nazaré 1 (01°53'02.4" S, 61°35'13.5" W) and Kiko (01°50'04.5" S, 61°35'30.6" W) Trails, respectively. Despite a widespread distribution in central Amazonia (Cabot 1992), these constitute the first record of this species for JNP.

Leucopternis melanops (Latham, 1790) - Black-faced Hawk. Sightings occurred on 7 August 2003 on the Vista Alegre Trail (01°49'56.8" S, 61°35'55.9" W), and on 31 August 2004, on the Nazaré 1 Trail (01°53'02.4" S, 61°35'13.5" W). Both sightings occurred in *terra firme* forest. On neither occasion I made visual contact with the species, but good quality recordings were obtained. Since those two observations occurred at a well surveyed site, but were separated by over a year, *L. melanops* is probably rare at JNP. In spite of a widespread distribution north of the Amazon (Bierregaard 1994), this is the first record of this species for the JNP. The nearest record was in 2004 at the Rio Negro State Park - North Sector (S. Borges, pers. comm.), adjacent to the Jaú National Park, about 25 km between both locations.

Porphyrio martinica (Linnaeus, 1766) - Purple Gallinule. Two individuals were sighted on 21 October 2008 at Ilha das Onças (01°50'46" S, 61°22'38" W), while foraging in aquatic vegetation bordering the margins of a small lake on the island.

Monasa atra (Boddaert, 1783) - Black Nunbird. On 17 November 2005 at Ilha Jussara (01°52'27" S, 61°22'09" W), a fluvial island on the left margin of the Rio Negro, within the boundaries of the JNP, I sighted two individuals of *M. atra,* perched in the forest midstory. The birds observed exhibited the typical field marks associated with the species, *i.e.* were predominantly black, with a red bill and with white in the wing bend. This species is known to have its range bounded by the left bank of the Rio Negro (Rasmussen and Collar 2002).

Pteroglossus aracari (Linnaeus, 1758) - Black-necked Aracari. This species was sighted three times on 16 (one individual), 17 (two individuals) and 18 November (one individual) 2005 perched on tree tops at Ilha Jussara (01°52'27" S, 61°22'09" W), a fluvial island on the left bank of the Rio Negro, within the boundaries of the JNP. On both occasions, tape-recordings were obtained. This species is known to have its range bounded by the left bank of the Rio Negro (Short and Horne 2002).

Veniliornis cassini (Malherbe, 1862) - Golden-collared Woodpecker. This species was recorded by voice only on 16 and 19 November 2005 at Ilha Jussara (01°52'27" S, 61°22'09" W), a riverine island located on the left bank of the Rio Negro, but inside the JNP boundaries. The individual was calling in the canopy, and did not allow visual contact due to dense vegetation.

Myrmotherula klagesi Todd, 1927 - Klages' Antwren. On 9 September 2000, I, accompanied by C. Marantz, heard this species at Jussara Island (01°52'27" S, 61°22'09" W),

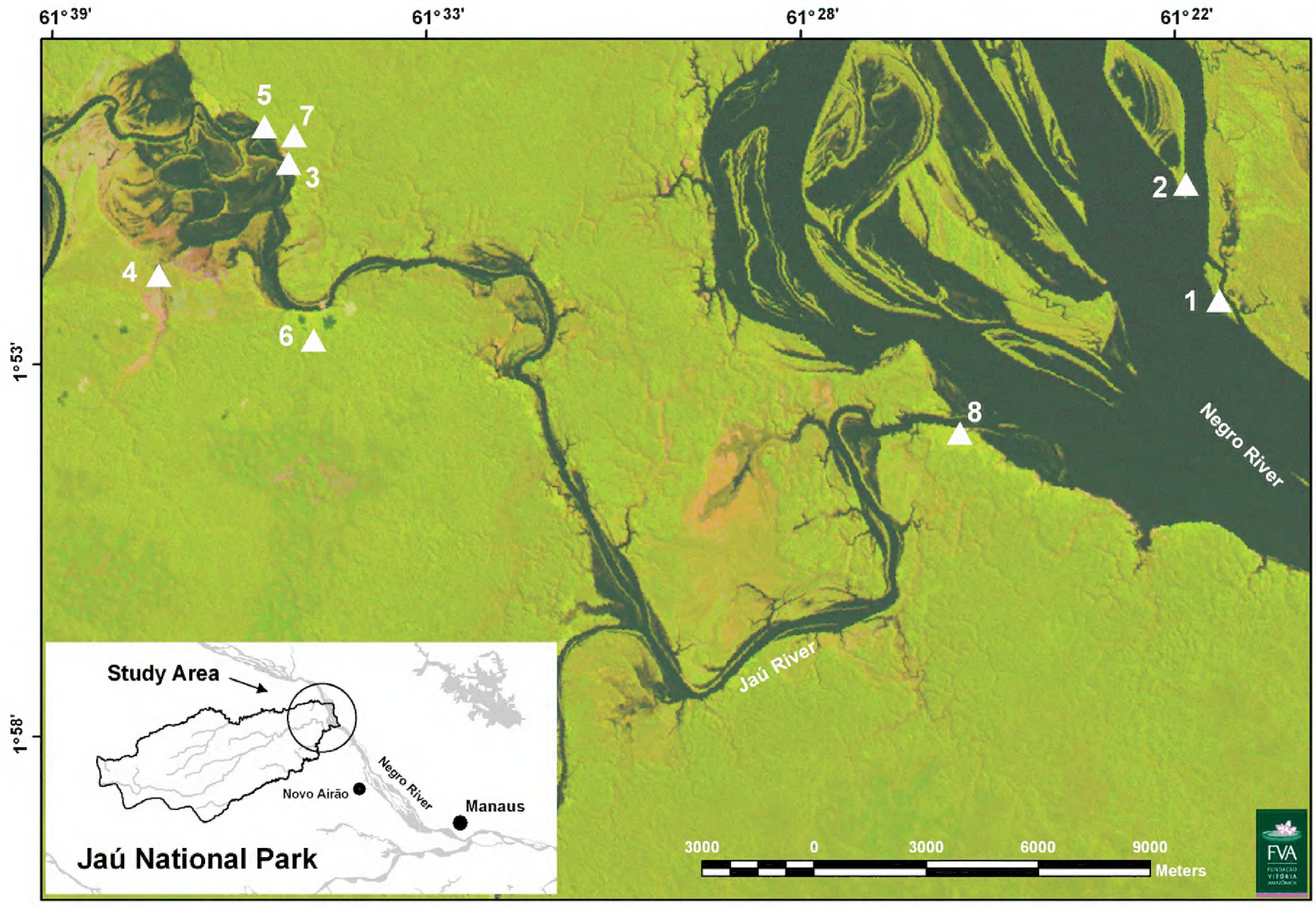

FIGURE 1. Locations where the new bird species for Jaú National Park were found: 1) *Myrmotherula klagesi*, *Veniliornis cassini*, *Pteroglossus aracari*, *Cephalopterus ornatus*, *Todirostrum pictum* and *Monasa atra*; 2) *Porphyrio martinica*, *Myrmotherula klagesi* and *Campylorhamphus procurvoides*; 3 and 4) *Psarocolius viridis*; 5) *Psarocolius viridis* and *Leucoptermis melanops*; 6) *Leucoptermis melanops* and *Tinamus guttatus*; 7) *Leucoptermis melanops* and *Tinamus guttatus*; and 8) *Iodopleura isabellae*.

a fluvial island on the left bank of the Rio Negro within the boundaries of JNP. This was the first record of the species in the JNP. A single individual singing continually in the forest canopy was encountered, but no visual contact was made. A month later (October), I visited the area again, and found at least two individuals vocalizing, whose calls were tape-recorded. The species appears to be locally common. Later records of this species were made by Borges (2004) in December the same year. The nearest previous record for this species on the Rio Negro comes from the Anavilhanas National Park (Ridgely and Tudor 1989; Cintra *et al.* 2007). This new record in the Rio Negro Basin extends the known geographical distribution over 100 km for the lower Rio Negro. *Myrmotherula klagesi* was described by Todd (1927), but since then little information has been obtained on its distribution or natural history. The species is known to occur from the Rio Tapajós to the Anavilhanas Archipelago in the Rio Negro Basin (Ridgely and Tudor 1989), and was recently reported from the middle Rio Madeira (Cohn-Haft *et al.* 2007), and recently in two mid-river islands (Ilha Jussara and Ilha das Onças, 01°50'46" S, 61°22'38" W) on the Rio Negro (Borges 2004), where the species was common. It occurs locally in the canopy and forest edges of seasonally flooded forests, especially those on riverine islands (Ridgely and Tudor 1989). It is likely that *M. klagesi* also occurs on islands of the Mariuá Archipelago, located in the mid-Rio Negro above the mouth of the Rio Branco.

Campylorhamphus procurvoides (Lafresnaye, 1850) - Curve-billed Scythebill. On 20 November 2005 at 05:50 h I tape-recorded an individual of *C. procurvoides* vocalizing continually in the forest midstory at Ilha das Onças (01°50'46" S, 61°22'38" W), a fluvial island on the left bank of the Rio Negro, within the boundaries of the JNP. The bird was not seen and this record is the first for the JNP. The vocalization was high, long and ascending, and composed of two notes: "dooee", the regular note, soft and slow which was repeated three times, and a second "dee" call which was sharper and repeated quickly nine times, ascending towards a sharper-sounding finale. The call can be represented thus: "dooee, dooee, dooee, deedeedeedeedeedeedeedeedee".

Percnostola rufifrons (Gmelin, 1789) - Black-headed Antbird. An adult male *P. rufifrons* was netted on 21 October 2008 at Ilha das Onças (01°50'46" S, 61°22'38" W), on the left bank of the Rio Negro. The bird had a red iris, one of the characters distinguishing this species from *P. minor*, with a grey iris. Thus, two *Percnostola* species are now known for the JNP.

Todirostrum pictum Salvin, 1897 - Painted Tody-Flycatcher. On 16 November 2005 *T. pictum* was recorded by voice at Ilha Jussara (01°52'27" S, 61°22'09" W), a fluvial island on the left margin of the Rio Negro, within the boundaries of JNP. Subsequent records were made on 17 and 19 November 2005 on the same island, also by voice only. *T. pictum* was common at Jussara, but difficult to observe because of its size and preference for dense vegetation. Two call types were noted: the most common, "cheeweee", is a distinct single note call, high and regular which is uttered in a short regularly spaced sequence of "cheeweee, cheeweee, cheeweee". The second call, "tip", is longer and repeated uninterruptedly, as "tip, tip, tip, tip, tip". This species is known to have its range bounded by the left bank of the Rio Negro (Walter 2004).

Cephalopterus ornatus Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1809 - Amazonian Umbrellabird. This species was encountered on 16 (one individual) and 17 (two individuals) November 2005 at Ilha Jussara (01°52'27" S, 61°22'09" W), a fluvial island on the left margin of the Rio Negro, within the boundaries of the JNP. Birds observed on 17 November were moving and vocalizing in the canopy of a tree at *c.* 30 m high. The nearest records come from Anavilhanas National Park (Cintra *et al*. 2007), expanding the current distribution by more than 100 km along the Rio Negro Basin.

Iodopleura isabellae Parzudaki, 1847 - White-browed Purpletuft. Sightings occurred on 13 and 14 May 2004 on the Sumaúma Trail (01°54'22.2" S, 61°25'53.0" W) on the left margin of the Rio Jaú, in an area of high secondary forest some 20 years old. On 13 May 2004 a single individual was observed at 16-17:00 h perched quietly at *c.* 25 m high atop a leafless emergent tree. A good profile view allowed the observation of the white superciliary and loral mark, characteristic of the species. I also observed the presence of a white uropygial patch. On 14 May 2004 an *I. isabellae* was sighted (possibly the same individual), constantly moving and foraging in the canopy of a high leafless tree. Despite a widespread distribution in Amazonia outside of the Guianan shield (Ridgely and Tudor 1994), these sightings constitute the first records for JNP.

Psarocolius viridis (Statius Muller, 1776) - Green Oropendola. One individual of *P. viridis* was encountered on 28 January 2002, and an additional five were sighted on 4 February 2002. All records came from 7 to 15 year old secondary forest in the immediate vicinity of the village called Seringalzinho (01°50'28.5" S, 61°35'35.3" W). I obtained two good sightings of this species, and observed clearly the red-tipped whitish beak and blue eyes. I observed single individuals, pairs and small groups of up to five individuals in the upper canopy of *terra firme* rainforest, secondary forest, and *igapó* flooded forest, as well as in agricultural areas in which manioc was being grown. On both occasions the birds were leaving the closed *terra firme* for more open areas (either secondary forest or the manioc fields) adjacent to the village. In secondary forest they were observed to pause and drink from the enlarged flower bracts of *Ravenala guyanensis* (A.Rich). Within the JNP, a subsequent record occurred on 8 August 2003 in flooded forest on the Cutiuaú Trail (01°52'06.2" S e 61°37'27.3" W). On this occasion, I registered a single individual by its call, coming from the canopy. On 12 July 2003 and 12 January 2004 *P. viridis* was encountered on the Vista Alegre Trail (01°49'56.8"S, 61°35'55.9"W), in *terra firme* forest, where it was sighted after its calls were heard. Based on these records, the species appears to be relatively common in the JNP.

During regular visits between 2000 and 2008, but most notably between 2003 and 2005, I made monthly visits to JNP. During this period 12 bird species were encountered that had not been previously recorded for JNP, bringing the list up, from 469 species (Borges 2004) to a total of 481 known species, totaling 14 years (1994-2008) of studies in the JNP. Of the 12 new records, four occurred in *terra firme* forest and eight were recorded on fluvial islands in the eastern sector of the park. The easternmost part of the JNP lies on the left bank of the Rio Negro and is formed by an archipelago of riverine islands occupied by blackwater seasonally-flooded forest (*igapó*). The results indicate that, within the park boundaries, *Myrmotherula klagesi*, *Cephalopterus ornatus*, *Campylorhamphus procurvoides*, *Veniliornis cassini*, *Pteroglossus aracari*, *Todirostrum pictum*, *Monasa atra*, *Porphyrio martinica* and *Percnostola rufifrons* are apparently restricted to those fluvial islands. This is not unexpected, as other species of birds are also restricted to islands in the JNP [*e.g. Cranioleuca vulpina* (Pelzeln 1856) and *Myrmotherula assimilis* Pelzeln 1868, pers. obs.]. However, although *C. procurvoides*, *V. cassini* and *P. rufifrons* are species typical of *terra firme*, they could be found occasionally in seasonally flooded vegetation. Other studies in Amazonia have also demonstrated that the avifauna of fluvial islands holds species that are apparently restricted to this habitat (*e.g.* Rosenberg 1990).

Although the avifauna of JNP is comparatively well-known, few studies have been undertaken in the eastern sector of the park, where these islands occur, and the results reported here underscore the value of surveying all available habitat types in a protected area. The new records took place in poorly sampled localities in the JNP and refer to species with low local densities and narrow distributions, which tend to be easily overlooked. The results obtained indicate that the fluvial archipelagoes on the Rio Negro (*e.g.* those of JNP, Anavilhanas National Park and the Mariuá) constitute high priority sites for ornithological investigation in the Rio Negro Basin, as do those occurring on the Amazonas and Solimões Rivers. Future avifaunal surveys at these currently poorly known areas will almost certainly lead to an improvement of the knowledge on the distribution of many poorly known species of Amazonian birds, with important consequences for their conservation.

Acknowledgments: I thank Fundação Vitória Amazônia, WWF-Brasil, Colgate-Palmolive and the Moore Foundation for the financial assistance that allowed the fieldwork to take place and IBAMA (Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente e dos Recursos Naturais Renováveis), for logistic support during fieldwork at Jaú. I also thank Marcelo P. Moreira, from Fundação Vitória Amazônica, Geoprocessing Unit for the map, and Adrian Barnett (Roehampton University) who translated the manuscript into English. I am also very grateful to the referees, the editor Dr. Leandro Bugoni, Dr. Alexandre Aleixo, Dra. Magalli Henriques, and an anonymous referee for their valuable contributions in revising this manuscript. I also thank Summer V. Wilson in the proof to authors helped me in the final review.

Literature Cited

Borges, S.H., M. Cohn-Haft, A.M.P. Carvalhães, L.M. Henriques, J.F. Pacheco and A. Whittaker. 2001. Birds of Jaú National Park, Brazilian Amazon: species check- list, biogeography and conservation. *Ornitologia Neotropical* 12(2): 109-140.

Borges, S.H. 2004. Inventários de aves no Parque Nacional do Jaú utilizando a abordagem do Projeto Janelas para a Biodiversidade; p. 177-194 *In* S.H. Borges, S. Iwanaga, C.C. Durigan and M.R. Pinheiro (eds.). *Janelas para a Biodiversidade no Parque Nacional do Jaú: uma estratégia para o estudo da biodiversidade Amazônica*. Manaus: Fundação Vitória Amazônica.

Borges, S.H., C.C. Durigan, M.R. Pinheiro, J.L.C. Camargo and A. Murchie. 2004. Planejando o Estudo da Biodiversidade na Amazônia Brasileira: Uma experiência no Parque Nacional do Jaú; p. 3-18 *In* S.H. Borges, S. Iwanaga, C.C. Durigan and M.R. Pinheiro (ed.). *Janelas para a Biodiversidade no Parque Nacional do Jaú: uma estratégia para o estudo da biodiversidade Amazônica*. Manaus: Fundação Vitória Amazônica.

Bierregaard, R.O. 1994. Family Accipitridae (hawks and eagles): Neotropical species accounts; p. 156 *In* J. del Hoyo, A. Elliott and J. Sargatal (ed.). *Handbook of the Birds of the World, Vol. 2. New World Vultures to Guineafowl*. Barcelona: Lynx Ediciones.

Cabot, J. 1992. Family Tinamidae (tinamous); p. 112-138 *In* J. del Hoyo, A. Elliott and J. Sargatal (eds.). *Handbook of Birds of the World, Vol 1. Ostrich to Ducks*. Barcelona: Lynx Ediciones.

Cintra, R, T. Sanaiotti and M. Cohn-Haft. 2007. Spatial distribution and habitat of the Anavilhanas Archipelago bird community in the Brazilian Amazon. *Biodiversity and Conservation* 16(2): 313-336.

Cohn-Haft, M, A.M.F. Pacheco, C.L. Bechtoldt, M.F.N.M. Torres, A.M. Fernandes, C.H. Sardelli and I.T Macedo. 2007. Capítulo 10. Inventário ornitológico; p. 145-178 *In* L. Rapp Py-Daniel, C.P. Deus, A.L. Henriques, D.M. Pimpão and O.M. Ribeiro (ed.). *Biodiversidade do Médio Madeira: bases científicas para propostas de conservação*. Manaus: Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas na Amazônia.

Rasmussen, P.C. and N.J. Collar. 2002. Family Bucconidae (puffbirds); p. 102-138 *In* J. del Hoyo; A. Elliott and J. Sargatal (ed.). *Handbook of the Birds of the World, Vol. 7. Jacamars to Woodpeckers*. Barcelona: Lynx Ediciones.

Ridgely, R.S. and G. Tudor 1989. *The birds of South America: The oscine passerines*. Vol. 1. Austin: University of Texas Press, 516 p.

Ridgely, R.S. and G. Tudor 1994. *The birds of South America: The suboscine passerines*. Vol. 2. Austin: University of Texas Press, 814 p.

Rosenberg, G.H. 1990. Habitat specialization and foraging behavior by birds on Amazonian river island in Northeastern Peru. *Condor* 92(2): 427-443.

Short, L. and J.F.M. Horne. 2002. Family Ramphastidae (toucans). p. 220-272 *In* J. del Hoyo, A. Eliott and J. Sargatal (ed.). *Handbook to the birds of the world, Vol. 7. Jacamars to Woodpeckers*. Barcelona: Lynx Ediciones.

Todd, W.E.C. 1927. New gnateaters and antbirds from tropical South America, with revision of the genus *Myrmeciza* and its allies. *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 40(1): 149-178.

Walter, B.A. 2004. Family Tyrannidae (tyrant-flycathcers). p. 183 *In* J. del Hoyo; A. Eliott and D. A. Christie (ed.). *Handbook of the Birds of the World, Vol. 9. Cotingas to Pipits*. Barcelona: Lynx Ediciones.

Received: May 2010
Revised: September 2010
Accepted: September 2010
Published online: October 2010
Editorial responsibility: Leandro Bugoni